



**Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony Brown, Lieutenant Governor
Israel C. Patoka, Executive Director**

**Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism
Frank Johnson, Chair**

As a supporting unit of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism creates, promotes and supports volunteer service efforts that engage all Marylanders to strengthen our communities.

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Governor's 26th Annual Volunteer Service Awards ***Marylanders Recognized for Commitment and Effort***

Volunteers from all across the state of Maryland were recognized today for outstanding service at the 26th annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards ceremony. Secretary of Appointments Jeanne Hitchcock and Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, Israel C. Patoka, presented 42 awards to honorees representing 14 Maryland counties and Baltimore City, during a mid-afternoon ceremony at the Maryland Hall for Creative Arts in Annapolis.

"Today, we are here to recognize our neighbors, family members and friends who over the past year, put forth that extra effort to improve the quality of life in communities across this state," said Secretary Hitchcock "Each individual and group being honored here this afternoon is continuing a time-honored Maryland tradition.

Presentation of these awards coincides with Volunteer Week in Maryland (April 19-25) and represents the most prestigious volunteer awards presented by the Office of the Governor. Award categories include business group, faith-based, individual awards (age 26-54), state government, lifetime achievement, national service, group, public safety and emergency response, youth (under age 26), senior (age 55-plus), senior group and youth group.

According to the most recent data released by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), an average of 1.2 million Marylanders dedicated 198.6 million hours of volunteer service during calendar year 2007, with an economic value of \$3.9 billion of service hours to the state.

This figure is based on the annual estimation of the dollar value of a volunteer hour by the group Independent Sector, which currently stands at \$19.51.

To qualify for a Governor's Volunteer Service Award, completed nomination forms were sent to the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism, accompanied by a written description consisting of no more than 500 words explaining why a person, group or organization should be recognized. A flood of over 300 applications were received from virtually every locality in the state.

The criteria for selection of award winners are:

- Outstanding volunteer service requiring meaningful commitment of effort and time
- Positive influence that addresses a problem or enhances the quality of life in Maryland
- Emphasis on service during the calendar year 2008

Award Recipients

Group

All Shades of Pink, Inc.

All Shades of Pink (ASOP) is a young organization that was founded in 2007 by Denice Whalen-White. Their mission is to help families fight breast cancer in a variety of creative ways. One of the components of the organization is the Comfort Blanket program. Volunteers hand-crochet pink and white blankets and donate them to area hospitals and organizations to distribute to women battling breast cancer. The blankets provide the recipients with encouragement and inspiration in knowing they are being thought of by people who do not know them personally. Last year they donated 120 blankets to Doctor's Community Hospital in Lanham, Maryland. They also offer emergency financial assistance to breast cancer impacted families struggling to pay their utility bills. ASOP also developed a coloring book to help children understand what a parent may go through while receiving treatment.

Prince George's County

*Nominated by:
Doctors Community Hospital
Prince George's Volunteer Center
Rev. Sandra Greene*

Towson United Methodist Church

The congregation of Towson United Methodist Church is an amazing group of individuals who are dedicated to their community and beyond. The amount of outreach they do is eye-catching: they send workers to Fresh Fruit Farms several times a year to pick and package fruits and vegetables for local shelters; participate in Sandtown Habitat for Humanity projects; conduct a blood drive for the American Red Cross' annual drive; Camp Hope sends the church's youth to Frostburg to work on homes that are in need of repair; operates the Wounded Warriors Project at Walter Reed Hospital; "adopted" Margaret Brent Elementary School where they provide clothing

and school supplies to underprivileged students; provide hurricane relief in Maryland and the Gulf region. They also participate in many overseas missions.

State & Nationwide

Nominated by LuAnn Blackman

MoverMoms

MoverMoms is a group of 125-plus dynamic mothers who aim to make a positive difference in the larger community – beyond their neighborhoods and children’s schools. In 2008, “The Moms” completed over 25 service projects in Montgomery County and Washington D.C. The group began in the winter of 2007 when a small group of moms cooked dinner for families of seriously ill children at The Children’s Inn at NIH in Bethesda. They enjoyed the experience and decided to make volunteering a part of their daily lives. Their projects include: work at numerous men’s and women’s shelters; assisting at the Capital Area Food Bank; editing resumes and teaching interview skills to low-income individuals; participation in many charity sporting events; delivered meals to senior citizens; organized a massive collection drive of Halloween candy for US soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. These moms are definitely on the move!

Montgomery County

Nominated by Rebecca Kahlenberg

Pan Masters Steel Orchestra

The Pan Masters Steel Orchestra is widely recognized as one of the top steel bands in the country, as well as an important cultural institution dedicated to promoting and preserving Caribbean music and culture. They also are committed to giving back to the community through their music and good deeds. The town of North Brentwood has benefitted greatly through their generosity. The band provides free entertainment at the community’s annual National Night Out along with several other shows throughout Prince George’s County. They also participated in the town’s first Teen Summit in 2008. Not only did they conduct workshops they also provided the entertainment. According to North Brentwood Mayor, Petrella Robinson, they are “always ready and prepared to help the town whenever needed.”

Prince George’s County

Nominated by Mayor Petrella Robinson

Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park (FPVSP)

The goal of this impressive group is to promote, advance and improve the beautiful Patapsco Valley State Park – this wonderful Maryland resource that stretches over 32 miles along the river and through four counties. In addition to staffing the Visitor Center, FPVSP volunteers continue to improve access and provide recreational opportunities and education for visitors. Most recently they planted trees, removed invasive plant species and coordinated the removal of discarded railroad ties along the Grist Mill Trail. The FPVSP’s also arranged for a replica of Captain John Smith’s “shallop” to be on display for visitors that has proven to be very popular attraction. The FPVSP’s work to support Maryland’s Department of Natural Resources during these tough economic times has been instrumental in keeping the park a vital resource for all of Maryland.

Baltimore & Howard Counties

Nominated by Robin Melton , DNR

Youth Group

Black Student Union (BSU) at DeMatha Catholic High School

Faculty sponsor Mr. Holsey, partnered with the City of Hyattsville’s Office of Volunteer Services to expand student service learning opportunities for his students. The Union has recorded over 450 hours of service. One of their most recent projects was with First United Methodist Church of Hyattsville. The church community had struggled for years to keep their property clean due to

illegal dumping. The BSU removed all the trash sending the message that this kind of activity will no longer be tolerated in that area. They also have worked with the Capital Area Food Bank with their annual "Stuff a Truck" event. Mr. Holsey and the Black Student Union are a valuable resource to their community.

Prince George's

Nominated by City of Hyattsville

Kids Theatre

Kids Theatre was established in 2002 by Colleen McCarrick at the age of 12 (she is now 18). The troupe currently has 40 active members and stages theatrical musicals every summer that benefit the disadvantaged citizens in the Middletown Valley area. Proceeds from one of their plays (over \$3,000) went towards the purchase of a service dog for a young lady suffering with muscular dystrophy. In 2008, as a result of increased involvement and community support, Kids Theatre moved to the Middletown High School stage and auditorium. Over 300 people attended their first play, netting \$2,400. Those proceeds were used to purchase a modified bicycle for a handicapped youth. Kids Theatre has truly inspired children, teens and young adults to strive to make a difference in their community and the world.

Frederick County

Nominated by Colleen McCarrick

Boy Scout Venturing Crew #202

Boy Scout Venturing Crew #202 from Carroll County is a youth-led organization whose community service focus has been on environmental restoration and protection. The Crew has contributed to the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort by planting trees along streams. To date they have planted and cared for over 8,000 trees! In addition, the Crew continues to support a variety of Maryland DNR restoration and management efforts. Over the last year, the Crew worked on two endangered bog turtle restoration projects, participated in bog turtle monitoring, banded a record 2,700 brown pelican chicks on islands in the Chesapeake Bay and volunteered for several weeks of stream and river monitoring. Crew #202 is a "living breathing shining example of a small group of committed youth literally changing the world by beginning in their own backyards and working outward."

Carroll County

Nominated by Paul Kazyak

Youth Individual

Derek Wu

Derek is a senior at James M. Bennett High School in Salisbury. He has worked on the Youth Leadership Academy in Wicomico County and the Sister Cities program of Salisbury and Wicomico County. Because of his involvement and commitment to those endeavors, Derek was nominated, and is now serving, as a student representative to the State Board of Education and is an active participant. He is also a leader in the Youth Action Team that has planned a Youth Leadership Academy each summer for the past three years. Due to his strong interest in international affairs, Derek was invited to join Sister Cities of Salisbury / Wicomico County as a member of the Education Committee. As a result of a trip to China he and several students are spearheading a plan to infuse Chinese culture and language into the curriculum of the Wicomico County School System and have also created a Chinese Club at the school. He recently made a presentation before the Salisbury City Council outlining why Salisbury and Dalian, China should be sister cities. Derek is a strong voice for youth in the State of Maryland.

Wicomico County & Statewide

Dr. George Whitehead

Casey Schurman

Casey is a teacher in Howard County at Bollman Bridge Elementary School. The school has a high population of at-risk students and those with language barriers. Bollman Bridge tested as one of the lowest schools in the state for health and wellness, so Casey created “Wendel’s Fitness Club,” partnering with Howard County General Hospital and other members of the health community to bring resources to her students. Each autumn Casey works to help coordinate volunteers for the Punt, Pass and Kick program, a kid’s initiative sponsored by the National Football League. She has also coordinated volunteers for the Babe Ruth Museum, coached softball, basketball and cheerleading. She is presently working with Good News Prison Ministry to co-chair their fall banquet and raise funds to place ministers in prisons. Casey is also working with the Foundation Fighting Blindness on a fall fashion show. In addition to those endeavors, Casey is pursuing a Masters Degree in Administration and Supervision.

Howard County

Nominated by LuAnn Blackman

Casey Mills

Casey is an 8th grade honor student at Windsor Knolls Middle School. As President of the Student Government Association, she organized a “Harvest for the Hungry” canned food drive, a “Operation Warm Up” coat drive and pulled together a team for Volunteer Frederick’s “Big Sweep”, a community wide clean-up. Casey and her SGA members have also formed a partnership with Buckingham’s Choice Assisted Living community and provide decorations for holidays, serving refreshments at parties and spending quality time with the residents. Casey has also volunteered over 500 hours at the Frederick County Animal Control Center. She is there on Saturday mornings to clean the ‘dog room’ and take care of the rabbits. She is the self-appointed advocate for the older animals and those that have been at the shelter the longest. Due to her time and commitment to the shelter, Casey is able to work with some of the vet technicians with blood tests and flea treatments. She has also been involved in the center’s Open House, Rabies Clinic, and animal foster program (she is currently foster ‘Mom’ to three rabbits). During the summer of 2008 she participated in the Summer Success program at Kemptown Elementary and spent the month of July as a teacher’s assistant. Casey is an extraordinary young lady!

Frederick County

Nominated by Kim Mills

State Government

Thomas Bryant

Tom is a member of the NCR / Hereford Volunteers, a nonprofit group that lends support to Gunpowder Falls State Park in maintaining, operating and enhancing the park’s northern areas. In 2008 he supported the maintenance and operation of the Torrey C. Brown Rail Trail by recruiting, training and managing a group of volunteers who each adopt and care for an assigned mile of park land. Tom has also constructed replica railroad mile markers and whistle signs that were installed along the trail to remind visitors of the railroad’s history. The value of Tom’s work in caring for the park grounds, enhancing the visitor’s experience and assisting the park staff can not be calculated. He is a tremendous asset to the State of Maryland and Gunpowder Falls State Park.

Baltimore County

*Nominated by Christina McCullough
Gunpowder Falls State Park*

Elmer S. Biles

Elmer grew up in Charles County and always had a love and appreciation of its local history. When the large parcel of land that is home to Mount Aventine, a historic antebellum home built on the property in 1840, was under threat of development in the 1990’s, he joined the Friends of Mount Aventine. He worked tirelessly through the years, attending hearings and conducting citizen outreach until the state purchased the property in 1998 and later created Chapman State

Park. During this time Elmer also traced the history of the Chapman family who owned the property from 1750-1914. In 2008, Charles County observed its 350th anniversary. Elmer developed lectures tracing the county and park history through the 350 years. The series was included in the official 350th Charles County Anniversary Program. Through his outstanding volunteer service, Elmer Biles has heightened awareness and knowledge of the history and culture of Charles County.

Charles County

*Nominated by Carol Ghobelian
Friends of Chapman State Park*

Individual

Judge Chung K. Pak

Judge Pak's dynamic leadership, tireless efforts, and numerous contributions have helped thousands of minorities and new immigrants in our state. As co-chair of the Multicultural Community Partnership (MCP), he was instrumental in bringing together and initiating constructive dialogue between the county's diverse multi-cultural, ethnic and religious communities. He helped organize and coordinate various educational and cultural programs to further their goals. Judge Pak has also served on the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Criminal Justice Committee and Asian American Police Advisory Committees to promote and build stronger partnerships between the Montgomery County Police Department and minority communities. He has played a substantial role in enabling many new immigrants in gaining access to essential government and social services by educating them on how to get grants for health care and other programs, assisting them in learning the English language, applications for U. S. citizenship and voter registration. As president of the League of Korean Americans (LOKA), he assisted the group in obtaining assistance for its annual Health Fair and Job Fair programs.

Montgomery County

Nominated by Delegate Susan C. Lee

Feroz Padder, M.D.

Dr. Feroz Padder's story is that of tragedy, triumph, challenges and opportunity. In 2006, on Halloween night, his then wife, Dr. Amira Abbas, and two beautiful children – Ayesha and Ali, were killed in a tragic car accident. Immediately after this horrible tragedy, he set up a foundation to honor his deceased family. The Ayesha & Ali Foundation currently operates a clinic in Prince Georges County, Maryland where each Friday, patients receive medical and psychiatric treatment free of charge. Under Dr. Padder's leadership, The Ayesha & Ali Foundation is working to turn this into a 5-day a week operational free clinic for uninsured people of Maryland.

Prince George's County

Nominated by Shukoor Ahmed

Jay Winter Nightwolf

Jay Winter Nightwolf is a registered member of "The Echota Cherokee Nation / Iroquios Confederacy". He is also serves on the National Advisory Board of Progressive Democrats of America, the Being Human Party, and Constitution Restoration Coop. Jay is also the originator and popular host of "The American Indian's Truth -- Nightwolf" on WPFW 89.3FM. Through his listeners on the radio, Jay organized a fundraiser for much needed supplies for nine reservations in South Dakota. The program, "Children's Village", is a foster home for abused children on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Through his listeners and supporters, he was able to fill a tractor trailer that carried the supplies to South Dakota free of charge. Jay also served as an advisor for a documentary "Our Spirits Don't Speak English" based on injustices perpetrated upon

Native American children in boarding schools. His tireless efforts have helped American Indians nationwide.

Prince George's County & Nationwide

Nominated by Frederick Nordham

Phil Selden

Volunteer firefighter, Special Olympic coach, volunteer attorney for the Montgomery County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and Maryland foster parent, are just a few of the volunteer titles carried during an average week in the life of Phil Selden. He tirelessly provides free legal services for those who cannot afford legal representation. His volunteer work also included efforts to recruit, train and educate judges on behalf of the county chapter of the NAACP in its non-partisan efforts to increase diversity among Montgomery County Election Day judges. When he is not providing free legal services or serving as a volunteer firefighter, Phil mentors disabled youth as a Special Olympics coach. He is working hard to inspire Maryland's youth by instilling the values of teamwork and acceptance.

Montgomery County

Nominated by Vivek Chopra

Jeanne L. Allert

Two years ago, Jeanne felt compelled to join the fight against the drugs, crime and poverty facing Baltimore. With a passion for bringing hope to the disenfranchised, she purchased (with her own savings), a large neglected estate in Southwest Baltimore. Her vision is to convert the site off Frederick Road into a home for women in recovery, a culinary school, an events center and a community garden. The 23-acre property includes a 120-year-old Victorian mansion and a second home built in 1924, both long vacant and in need of much repair. Once fully renovated, it will become a transitional home for women in recovery. She also created a non-profit – The Samaritan Women, and ignited a spark of hope in others to follow along with this vision. Within a year, and with over 6,000 hours of work from volunteers, Jeanne has brought possibility back into the property. She has also solicited the support of over 30 churches in the metro area. In addition, Jeanne has formed partnerships with local homeless shelters and at-risk youth homes, engaging their residents to take part in the renovations and gardens, and proving that everyone – regardless of station, has a gift to give others.

Baltimore City

Nominated by Erin Simia

Betty Mack

As president of the Northern Arundel Cultural Preservation Society (NACPS), Betty Mack is the ideal role model for any Marylander wanting to volunteer in the fields of history and preservation. In 2008 under Betty's leadership and guidance, NACPS opened exhibitions at three locations throughout Maryland – BWI Airport, the Mormon Temple in Kensington and at the Bates Legacy Center in Annapolis. In support of these exhibitions a lot of behind the scenes action took place. Betty secured each location, gathered volunteers to transport and mount the exhibition objects, coordinated public tours, and developed programming to further enhance the power of the exhibit. For the past three years she has served as the project coordinator on the Trails, Tracks Tarmac project, an all volunteer supported effort to document the lives, stories, history and culture of individuals and communities in Northern Anne Arundel County. Mrs. Mack always emphasizes that teamwork and collaboration are the driving forces behind NACPS's success. However, it is acknowledged by many NACPS volunteers that the driving force behind the teamwork and collaboration so evident in the work NACPS does is Mrs. Betty Mack.

Anne Arundel

Nominated by Genevieve Kaplan

McKinley Hayward

Upon taking the position of chairman of the Lower Eastern Shore Children's Center (LESCC) Facility Advisory Board, Mr. Hayward jumped in with passion and excitement and has made an incredible impact on board members, staff and Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) youth. He has taken the responsibility of mentoring several youth at the center, making a vested interest in their continued education. He is committed to assisting all youth who are interested in attending college. Mr. Hayward also arranged for the facility staff and Advisory Board members to participate in a PAC 14 television program that is set to air in April of 2009. He encourages all to go beyond their comfort zone to help DJS youth and he never asks anyone to do anything he is not willing to do himself.

Wicomico County

*Secretary Donald DeVore
Department of Juvenile Services*

Amjad Riar, M.D.

Dr. Riar serves as the medical director for the region's largest non-profit community-based hospice organization. He also cross trains resident physicians at Georgetown and George Washington hospitals. Dr. Riar also serves on a myriad of commissions, councils, and committees for the State. As chairman of the Health Disparities for Montgomery County Commission, he identifies the areas in the county in need of health programs and or initiatives. Dr. Riar also serves on the newly formed Maryland Council for New Americans and the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs. Dr. Riar dedicates his time and expertise in providing a better quality of life for his community.

Montgomery County

Nominated by Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

Faith Based

Louise & Phillip Lassiter

For years, Louise and Phil have traveled to Appalachia to work for Habitat for Humanity. They have been responsible for fund raising (over \$30,000), enlisting volunteers, gathering tools and equipment, and making sure all the logistical plans were complete. There were many events to be planned and, of course, training of volunteers. In addition, they packed bags of clothing before they went to distribute to people in need there. Phil also volunteers for the Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines where he cooks and serves the food at most of the events. Recently, the Community Church added a Family Life Center to be used by the community and it included a brand new kitchen. Louise and Phil held a 'kitchen shower' to make sure it was complete down to the potholders. This kitchen has served hundreds of people and the Lassiter's oversee all functions. Along with other activities, they organize volunteers to travel to the Grace United Church in Salisbury to serve food to the homeless. This dynamic couple also initiated a new project "Angel Food Ministries" held at the church off Route 589.

Worcester County & Beyond

Nominated by Arlene Page

Reverend Mary Walker

Reverend Mary Walker grew up in Kent County during the period of segregation and has worked very hard during most of her adult life to erase racial tensions and bring communities together. She is often called upon to give the prayer at community services, represent the interest of those in need in the community and mediate community conflicts. She is very active with the Kent County Health Department tobacco smoke cessation projects. Through her efforts, hundreds of people in Kent County have quit smoking and as a direct result, smoke-related ailments in Kent County have decreased. She is constantly looking for new ways to help others in the community through financial, health or faith based services.

Kent County

Nominated by Commissioner William Pickrum

Academic Center for Excellence

The New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown's Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) is a celebrated 21st Century community learning center that provides tutorial and enrichment programs designed to broaden the academic learning and social experiences of students in grades K-12. The after school program offers individualized instruction, aligned to the Maryland State Voluntary Curriculum, in small group settings four times a week. The program also offers GED classes through its partnership with the Community College of Baltimore County. ACE's significant volunteer force worked with its youth to: plan and implement a community health fair (2000 participated); conducted voter registration drives, collected over 10,000 canned foods for Maryland Food Bank and fed over 100 families in need. ACE is proud to be a committed, influential force in the community focused on enhancing the lives of its community members and partnering with them in the process.

Baltimore County

Nominated by Genee Varlack

Lifetime Achievement

Robert Dorsey

Bob Dorsey has been an outstanding community leader, role model and volunteer in the Rockville area of Montgomery County for over 30 years. Beginning in the 1970's, he joined several of his neighbors to establish Youth Motivation and Protection Association, a group designed to provide encouragement to young people in Rockville. This inauspicious beginning of Bob's illustrative career as a community activist culminated in his being elected to the Rockville City Council in 1983. Now retired, Bob works as a tutor providing court-assigned tutoring to challenged students. He is not afraid to take challenges. He was also an on-site manager of the Lakefront Library Connection in Gaithersburg where he established himself as the "Computer Guy at the Mall." At no time over the past 30 years has Bob not been an active member of several organizations concurrently. Bob was a member and former chairperson of Rockville's Human Rights Commission for 12 ½ years, prior to his 14 years on the Rockville City Council. Bob served for several years as a member of the Board of Directors for Montgomery Avenue Women's Center (MAWC), a homeless services center in Rockville. He was recently asked to assume responsibility as Executive Director of MAWC and will preside over its expansion in the near future.

Montgomery County

Senator Jennie Forehand

Mary Anna Marley

From 1945 to 2000, Mary Anna Marley held teaching positions with the Chimes School which specializes in educating children with developmental disabilities. As a teacher at the school, she was instrumental in developing the first speech and language curriculum that was successfully utilized at the school for over 30 years. During her tenure there she also began to volunteer as an archivist for both the school and Chimes, Inc. Mary Anna continues to this day as a volunteer at the Chimes School since her retirement in 2000. This past year marked a very special milestone for Mary Anna – she completed 50 years of service to people with disabilities. However, she will tell you that as much as one gives day in and out, she has received far more in return. When asked about her accomplishments at the school, she just hopes her former students are leading more independent and productive lives. This is evident in all the notes and mementos she has received through the years from children and family members recounting the value of learning,

speech and language skills at the Chimes School. Mary Anna has given her students a voice that comes right from her heart.

Baltimore City

Nominated by Stephanie Washington

Senior

Kun K. Sin

Mr. Sin has worked tirelessly to become a prominent and vital voice for the Korean community within Maryland. As president of the League of Korean Americans (LOKA), Kun has been at the forefront in organizing important community events geared directly towards the growing Korean population in Maryland. Some of his most successful events include the annual LOKA Health Fair, where vaccinations and various early disease diagnosis tests were provided and a Job Fair and auto-mechanic training program to assist in securing jobs for immigrants with limited English proficiency. Kun also organized the Korean American Day Celebration in the Maryland General Assembly, which helped to educate elected officials about Korean American's expanding role and their contributions to Maryland. He also organized computer and language classes as well as voter registration activities. Kun also dedicates his time to various Korean Advisory Councils, helping to further promote and cultivate the relationship between the Maryland State Government and the Korean American population.

Montgomery

Nominated by Delegate Susan Lee

Edwin Gould

Edwin Gould has far surpassed what is typically asked of a volunteer at Our House, a residential youth home that provides job training in construction trades. Ed began tutoring the young male residents, many from broken homes with troubled histories. He also taught them calligraphy to allow the young men to express themselves artistically. When Our House moved to a new 140-acre farm in another county, Ed followed. He has almost single handedly retained State certification for the farm at Our House as an official organic farm within one year of its opening—a process that normally takes three years. Edwin bought the students a commercial grade rototiller and began teaching the students how to farm, then turn their harvest into profit selling goods from their own roadside vegetable stand. These skills, as well as bookkeeping, pottery and ceramics skills, are Ed's gifts to these young people. In the words of his nominator, "This is truly a man who has put the needs of a group of teens whom most people have written off or abandoned, as the number one priority in his life."

Montgomery

Nominated by Richard Bienvenue

Patricia "Pat" Shaw

The words "No" or "I can't" are words you do not find in Patricia's vocabulary. As an active volunteer with the American Red Cross (ARC), the Baltimore County Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC), Pat works tirelessly to provide relief services both here in Maryland and around the country. Through her work in ARC Baltimore City and County Disaster Action Team, Pat has helped over 400 Maryland residents after house fires, as well as traveling to disaster relief sites after hurricanes, including Gustav and Katrina. Pat has spent over 200 days deployed to disaster relief sites during her volunteer time. In her work with the Baltimore County Department of Social Services, Pat has made back-to-school kits for local children, shopped for toys for distribution during the Christmas holidays, and shopped for over 400 coats for the Coats-4-Kids Campaign. Since joining ACTC in 1998 and serving as President of the ACTC for 6 of those years, Pat has been instrumental in the ACTC's efforts to distribute food and financial assistance to tens of thousands of families. She has been a key leader and worker in ACTC's annual Thanksgiving Basket program, with over 2,300 baskets distributed this past year. Pat's contributions can be summed up best in the words of her

nominator: "She has the most willing arms and the biggest heart. She symbolizes what is best in our community ..."

Baltimore City & County

*Nominated by Kevin Burr
American Red Cross*

Senior Group

Worcester County Veterans Memorial / Maintenance Crew

From its construction and dedication in 2004, the Veterans Memorial has had five or six veterans who have devoted themselves to the upkeep and maintenance of the Memorial site, as well as the raising and lowering of flags on appropriate occasions. On a weekly, year round basis, in fair weather or foul weather, these men clean the site, pull weeds and see to general maintenance. The most important task is the proper handling of the flags when they are lowered from full staff to half staff and then back to full staff. These directives are usually issued by the President of the United States, or the Office of the Governor. To protecting and preserve flags from deterioration, all flags are taken down and replaced with storm flags whenever winds exceed 20 mile per hour. These veterans have served our country in war time and peace time and now continue to serve in their retirement. They are: Chairman John Henglein, US Navy; Al Bridgman, US Coast Guard; Jim Coyne, US Air Force; William Bowers, US Air Force; Bill Lee, US Army; and Dave Smith, US Marine Corps.

Worcester County

Nominated by Roseann Bridgman

Public Safety & Emergency Response

F. Samuel Keiffer

Sam has worked for 69 years and for the last 12 of those years, the Maryland State Police has been lucky to have Sam serve as a volunteer within the Prince Frederick Barrack. Set for retirement in May, Sam has logged over 5,000 hours of volunteer service with the force. A list of accomplishments provided by his nominator covered an entire page but some of the highlights include: organizing the barracks' Open House for 14 years; invaluable member in the formation and maintenance of the Neighborhood Watch Program of Calvert County; maintenance of Maryland State Police manuals; an active member of Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T.), as well as numerous other volunteer efforts conducted by the Maryland State Police. Serving as a mentor to many of the officers, Sam has not only helped the Maryland State Police in their day-to-day activities but has also provided support in non-work related situations. Mr. Keiffer's presence is one that will truly be missed with the Maryland State Police, especially within the Prince Frederick Barrack offices.

Calvert County

Nominated by Lt. Randolph Stephens

Shomrim of Baltimore

Not your typical "Citizens on Patrol" group, Shomrim of Baltimore, assists the Baltimore community by preventing and deterring crime, which strengthens the community and improves everyone's quality of life. Volunteers with Shomrim work together with local law enforcement agents to provide the highest quality of protection to local communities. With a 24-hour hotline and dispatch service, Shomrim provides immediate response to any distress call made to the hotline. Upon receiving the call, volunteers immediately leave their jobs or home to respond to the situation. Shomrim of Baltimore has also successfully located missing children and adults, even helping to find a missing person from New York. This group is composed of dedicated

volunteers from the Baltimore area who devote their valuable time and energy in helping to protect local Baltimore communities. Due to Shomrim's tireless effort, families are able to sleep better at night knowing someone is watching out for them.

Baltimore City & County

Nominated by Nathan D. Willner, Esq.

Special Recognition

The Honorable Robert M. Bell & Maryland State Bar Association

In the summer of 2008, when the foreclosure crisis reached the point where homeowners were filing for foreclosures at a rate of 62 filings a day across the state, Chief Judge Robert Bell wanted to do something to stem the tide. Judge Bell sent a "Call to Action" letter to attorneys across the state, asking them to step up to the plate by volunteering to provide pro bono legal support to thousands of Marylanders facing loss of their homes. Maryland attorneys answered Judge Bell's clarion call and this unprecedented volunteer effort, now known as the Foreclosure Prevention Pro Bono Project (FPPBP), has helped hundreds of homeowners keep their households intact. Thanks to Chief Judge Bell and the efforts of those committed volunteer lawyers, many Marylanders have been able to save their homes, preserve families and continue to live the American dream.

NAACP – 100th Anniversary

Founded February 12, 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation's oldest, largest and most widely recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization. It's more than half-million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors. Congratulations on 100 years of outstanding service.

The Banneker-Douglass Museum – 25th Anniversary

The Banneker-Douglass Museum, named for Benjamin Banneker and Frederick Douglass, is dedicated to preserving Maryland's African American heritage and serves as the state's official repository of African American material culture. The museum was dedicated on February 24, 1984. The original museum was housed within the former Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church in the heart of historic Annapolis. The Victorian-Gothic structure was included in the Annapolis Historic District in 1971 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

Welcome Center Volunteer Program

Maryland Office of Tourism Development (MOTD)

The Maryland Office of Tourism Development (MOTD) is an agency of the State of Maryland, under the authority of the Department of Business and Economic Development, Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts. There are 11 Welcome Centers located throughout each region in the state. The volunteer staff welcomes visitors and residents seeking information about Maryland. They offer assistance with directions and transportation options, hotel accommodations, assist visitors with their itineraries, greet motor coaches and work with the tourism industry and private industry to ensure a pleasant visit for all. Currently there are 60 dedicated volunteers who donate

their time each week. In 2008 they logged a staggering 8,500 hours of service to our state. The volunteers are enthusiastic ambassadors who enjoy promoting all that Maryland has to offer.

Special Recognition: Years of Service

Keith J. Hart

The Governor's Office of Community Initiatives and the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism would like to thank Keith J. Hart for his dedicated service to the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV). Keith began his public service career as an after-school program educator and volunteer forest firefighter with the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) in San Diego, CA. Following his service with NCCC, Keith served as a program development specialist at the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation and liaison with the National School and Community Corps in Philadelphia and New York City. He then came to Maryland to work as Program Director of the A Star! in Western Maryland AmeriCorps program at Frostburg State University, where he also assisted with efforts to build the Western Maryland Alliance for Service and Volunteerism. Prior to being appointed as Executive Director of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism in March 2004, Keith served as Acting Director and Director of Programs of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism. His extensive knowledge of government entities and the legislative process was of great benefit to GOSV and the volunteer community of Maryland. From the beginning of his service with NCCC, Keith maintained a passion for service and dedication to recruiting more people to serve. He inspired others through his personal volunteer commitments and held the Volunteer Flag of Maryland high. We wish him greatest of success in his future endeavors.